# PATH AIS INSERTION FOR CONCATENATED PAYLOADS ACROSS MULTIPLE PROCESSORS

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## ABSTRACT

In a data transmission network, such as SONET, a method and apparatus for the generation of a path Alarm Insertion Signal (AIS) at the output of each of a number of

10 concatenated pointer processors in response to a failure at the input of any one of the pointer processors. Each of the pointer processors has an input, an output and a bidirectional terminal that is coupled to a common node. Each of the pointer processors includes circuitry coupled to the input, the output and the bidirectional terminal that causes a predetermined logic level to be asserted at the bidirectional terminal in response to the appearance of an error signal at its input

15 and that causes an AIS to appear at its output in response to either an error signal at its input or the assertion of the predetermined logic level at its bidirectional terminal.